6. Dance Director
7. Editor
8. Singer
9. Lyricist
10. Story Writer
11. Screen Play Writer
12. Dialogue Writer
13. Dress Designer

Tax is also deductible at source from any sum paid for broadcasting, telecasting and production of programmes in pursuance of a contract.

(d) Recovery of taxes is a continuous process involving various statutory procedures. Action taken by the Government to recover any dues would depend on the facts of each case.

VRS for General Insurance Companies

2698. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up an elaborate plan for manpower reduction in State owned General Insurance Companies;

(b) if so, whether under the plan Government have offered about 13000 development officers of the four general insurance companies three options either to operate within lower cost parameters or opt for administrative posts or exist under the special voluntary retirement scheme; and

(c) whether this VRS will have adverse effect on efficiency of insurance sector?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme, introduced under General Insurance (Rationalization of Pay Scales and Other Conditions of Service of Development Staff) amendment Scheme, 2003, would enable the public sector General Insurance Companies to procure business at lower cost. It would enable the Companies to re-deploy

the Development Officers for improving customer care and services. The Scheme also provides an opportunity to the Development Officers to exist from the companies by taking Special Voluntary Retirement Package while continuing marketing insurance products for the companies as agents. Therefore, the Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme would enhance the efficiency of the insurance companies.

Instalment of Dearness Allowance

2699. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether another instalment of Dearness Allowance has become due to the Central Government Employees with effect from 1 st January, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the same has since been released and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the same is likely to be ordered to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The orders enhancing Dearness Allowance to Central Government employees from 52% to 55% w.e.f. 1.1.2003 have been issued on 4.4.03.

Repayment of debts by unemployed youths

†2700. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the slow progress in the timely repayment of debts by unemployed youths under Prime Minister's self-employment scheme;

(b) if so, whether he is also aware of the fact that complicated procedure for sanctioning debts under this scheme and inadequate amount of debt are the main reasons behind it;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.